

Minutes of the Coleraine Probus Club AGM

Held in Portstewart Golf Club on Tuesday 31st January 2012

Attendance: 39 members were present.

Apologies: Sam Boyd, Ronnie Gray, Bob McIvor, John McGlade, Reggie Patterson, Ahmed Sharieff and Joe Wishart. (7)

The President, John Ludlow welcomed guest, Peter Fitzgerald our Rotary Club Liaison Officer, and Probus members to the 2012 Annual General Meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of the AGM of 25th January 2011 were read, agreed and signed.

Matters arising: None not covered by the agenda

Secretary's Report: The Secretary, Mike Turner read his report on the Club activities and membership for the passed year - a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer, Nigel Semple talked through the audited accounts for the members. A copy of the summary had been distributed to members before the meeting began - a further copy is attached to these minutes. During his presentation of the accounts, Nigel wanted to give a special mention to Mervyn Patterson for arranging the very successful and minimal cost to club funds, Inter-Club Quiz, and also, to members all for their prompt payment of membership fees. In view of the careful expenditure over the year, he was not proposing an increase in club subs for the coming year.

Questions: Both Norman Maxwell and Cecil Leitch asked about the availability and costs of new Probus ties and club badges. The Secretary would look into this and report to members in the new club year.

Adoption: Members were asked if the club should adopt both the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports. Norman Maxwell proposed the acceptance, and this was seconded by Cecil Leitch. The proposal was carried unanimously.

Outgoing President: John Ludlow took the opportunity of this, the last time he would be chairing a club meeting, to thank club committee members for their help over the last year. To Jim Gordon for taking care of the catering worries; for Nigel Semple for keeping the books in good order; for John McHenry and the speakers sub committee for organising such a splendid variety of talks; for John Dobson for seeing that the press kept our photos in the local papers, and our Secretary for all those too long minuets!

John then went on give a short review of some of the more memorable club talks he had enjoyed, especially mentioning those given by our own members, which has be something he thought we would all like to hear more of.

The President then formally declared all the current officer and committee posts vacant, and called upon Peter Fitzgerald to take the chair to conduct the elections for the new club post holders in the new Probus year.

Elections: Our Rotary Liaison Officer, Peter Fitzgerald took the chair and reminded members that they were all another year older since last he had that task. Peter then went on to look back at the success the club has been over the years and was particularly pleased to see so many members remembering to wear their Probus badges today! Peter then proceeded with the elections:-

Results of Election of Club Office Bearers and Committee

Position:		Proposed by:	Seconded by:
President	Ross Torrens	John Ludlow	John Leslie
Vice President	Graham Kane	Nigel Semple	Norman Maxwell
2 nd Vice President	Gordon Ward	Jim Gordon	Nigel Semple
Hon Secretary	Mike Turner	John Ludlow	Graham Kane
Hon Treasurer	Nigel Semple	John McHenry	Joe Alcorn
Hon Auditor	Graham Kane	John McHenry	Nigel Semple

Elected Committee Members:

Speaker Secretary	John McHenry	Jim Gordon	John Ludlow
Social / Catering	Jim Gordon	Mike Turner	Ross Torrens
Welfare	Ian Murray and Tony Smyth	Graham Kane	Norman Maxwell
Press Officer	John Dobson	Mervyn Patterson	Dermot Jennings

The immediate past president automatically becomes an ex-officio member of committee
The Club Committee has powers to second members to the committee for special events and / or additional Club Sub-Committees

Presentation: Peter Fitzgerald congratulated Ross on becoming President and thanked John for asking him to preside over the elections.
New President Ross Torrens thanked Peter Fitzgerald for conducting the elections and the members for doing him the honour of electing him as president. Ross then went on to present John Ludlow with a 'Past President's Plaque' and badge.

Investiture: John Ludlow invested the incoming president with the chain of office.

Presidents Address: New President Ross Torrens Ross thanked the members for their support and said that he had a very difficult task now that he was following in the footsteps of a long line of very good presidents indeed. He said that he was very proud of becoming President, and looked forward to the year ahead, which he hoped would be good one for the club, and hopefully bringing in new members and friends.

Any other business: 1) The President thanked Peter Fitzgerald for his continued interest in the club, and asked him to share some of his thoughts for the future. Peter was typically positive about the club, which has one of the largest memberships in Ireland, as well as attracting more speakers per year than any other club. Peter also congratulated the club for inviting members wives to some club talks as well as lunches.

Next AGM: Will be the AGM on 29th January 2013 at the Portstewart Golf Club. 10.30 for 11.00

The new President thanked members and Peter Fitzgerald for attending, then closed the meeting at 12.05 pm.

SIGNED: _____

DATE: _____